

WHAT'S YOUR PSI? Tire Safety Quiz Answers

1. **A.** Tire 1 is underinflated by 40%! Tire 1 should be at 32 psi (pounds per square inch) and it's at about 19 psi. Bottom line: you can't always tell just by looking, kicking or pressing. It's a good safety practice to keep a tire pressure gauge in your vehicle at all times — they're available at tire dealerships, auto supply stores or other retail outlets.

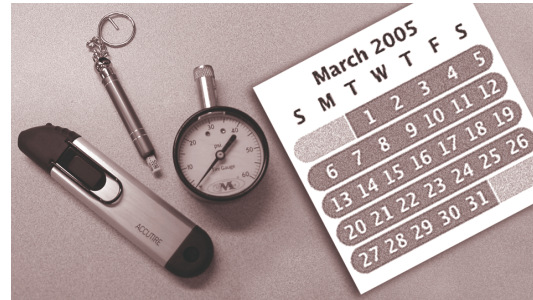


Tire 1



Tire 2

2. **B.** Because tires may naturally lose air over time, it's important to **check tire pressure** on all tires, including your spare, **at least once a month**. There's nothing wrong with checking more frequently, before a long trip, for instance. To get an accurate reading, measure tire pressure when the tires are "cold," meaning when the vehicle has not been driven for at least three hours. Even driving one mile can heat up your tires so that obtaining an accurate "cold" measurement is difficult.



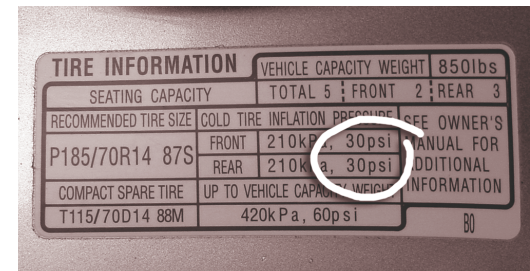
3. **A.** Most folks think B, the tire manufacturer, but the correct answer is A, the vehicle manufacturer. This information is listed as pounds per square inch (psi) and can be found on the vehicle's tire information label and in your owner's manual. The label is typically located on the inside of the driver's side doorframe or doorpost. It can also be on the inside of the glovebox door or trunk lid. Take a minute and look at this label next time you get in your vehicle.



4. **A and B.** Underinflated tires and overloaded vehicles are the leading causes of tire failure. Always inflate your tires to the recommended tire pressure

on the vehicle's tire information label. Some vehicle manufacturers may also provide a lower recommended tire pressure for lightly loaded vehicle conditions, e.g., if there are only 1-3 occupants in the vehicle. However, lowering tire pressure to give a more comfortable ride without following the loading guidelines is an unsafe practice.

Always follow the tire pressure and loading guidelines on your vehicle's tire information label or within your owner's manual.



While uneven tread wear may be undesirable, it's generally not an immediate safety concern. Uneven tread wear is usually the result of wheel misalignment, improperly balanced tires, or the need for tire rotation. Follow the guidelines in your owner's manual for proper tire rotation and check with your tire dealer if you're experiencing uneven tread wear.

5. **A and D.** Tires should be replaced when the tread wears down to 2/32 (or 1/16) of an inch. Tires also have built-in tread wear indicators, or "wear bars," that let

you know when the tread reaches this mark. You can also use a Lincoln penny to test your tire tread. Simply turn the penny so that Lincoln's head is pointing down — and insert it into the tread. If you can see all of Lincoln's head, it's time to replace your tires.



HOW'D YOU DO?

If you missed any, you might want to take a look at the **Tire Safety** section of www.safercar.gov or www.rma.org for more information.

You may also want to keep this guide in your vehicle for easy referencing.

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3. Who should determine the correct pressure for your vehicle's tires?

- A The vehicle manufacturer
- B The tire manufacturer
- C A certified mechanic
- D The salesman who sold you the vehicle

4. Which factors can have an adverse and immediate impact on tire safety?

- A Underinflated tires
- B An overloaded vehicle
- C Uneven tread wear
- D All of the above

5. When do you know it's time to replace a tire?

- A When the tread is worn down to 2/32 (or 1/16) of an inch
- B Every year
- C Every 10,000 miles
- D When the "wear bars" become level with the tread

ANSWERS AND TIRE SAFETY INFO INSIDE...



WHAT'S YOUR PSI?



A SHORT QUIZ TO TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF TIRE SAFETY



QUESTIONS MAY HAVE MULTIPLE ANSWERS

1. Which of the tires pictured here is underinflated?

- A Tire 1
- B Tire 2
- C Both
- D Neither



Tire 1



Tire 2

2. How often should you check your vehicle's tire pressure?

- A Once a week
- B At least once a month
- C Every six months
- D When you get your oil changed